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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR WEHRBEIN: My...my point would be that this is an issue of probably judiciary. This is a bill that introduced a tax. It has nothing to do with arbitration or the authority of county boards or the authority of NRDs; that if there was a...if this particular amendment was introduced on its own it would not go to...to Revenue Committee for sure. It would go to Government, NRD...or Natural Resources or even Judiciary. But it does not have anything to do with raising an occupation tax for entertainment events.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, would you respond?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, it most certainly does. If you look at the first three lines of the amendment, it says that this occupation tax that would be levied in this case could not be levied by a county unless they had agreed by resolution to the arbitration provisions stated in the amendment. So it's definitely related to the occupation tax because it says you can't have the occupation tax unless the arbitration provisions are agreed to as a matter of process. I don't...they're inextricably bound together and I don't see how one could say it's not germane.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Could I have both of you come to the desk for a moment, please? Thank you. Senator Wehrbein, I appreciate both you and Senator Beutler's input. I'm going to rule that the amendment is not germane; that the subject is different from the original amendment and that the details of the specific bill are not the same of those or a logical sequence, and so I will rule it not germane. Senator Beutler, you are free to challenge the Chair if you'd like to do so at this time. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: I have nothing further pending to the committee amendments at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on committee amendments? Seeing none, Senator Wickersham, you're recognized to close on committee amendments.